

Renewing our Dedication

Matthew 16:13-19; John 21; Luke 22

What are some words you would use to describe Peter?

Why do you agree or disagree with this statement: "We all have a little bit of Peter in us"?

2 Corinthians 5:16-17 So we have stopped evaluating others by what the world thinks about them. Once I mistakenly thought of Christ that way, as though he were merely a human being. How differently I think about him now! What this means is that those who become Christians become new persons. They are not the same anymore, for the old life is gone. A new life has begun!

**If there is no change in us, then we have not received Jesus; if you are a believer in Jesus then you are transformed.**

How would you describe the transformation that takes place when a person receives Jesus?

Matthew 4:18-20 And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men. They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

What did it cost Peter and Andrew to follow Jesus?

What does it mean for us to follow Jesus?

Who are the ministers in the church?

**Jesus requires us to commit to Him and His mission, and to serve others as He served.**

Jesus empowers us as He did Peter and Andrew when He said, I w \_\_\_\_\_  
m \_\_\_\_\_  
you fishers of men.

Jesus calls us to realign our p \_\_\_\_\_ and g \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus is not satisfied with \_\_\_\_\_ Christians.

Matthew 16: 13-19 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, Who do people say that the Son of Man is? Well, they replied, some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say Jeremiah or one of the other prophets. **Then he**

**asked them, Who do you say I am? Simon Peter answered, You are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God.** Jesus replied, You are blessed, Simon son of John, because my Father in heaven has revealed this to you. You did not learn this from any human being. Now I say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it.

The actual words spoken by Jesus show that the church is built on Christ the big rock:

[Matthew 16:13 I tell you that you are Peter (Petros: little rock), and on this rock (Petra: big rock) I will build my church...]

This was confirmed by Peter in the following Scripture:

1 Peter 2:4-5 As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood.

All of us who believe are I \_\_\_\_\_ s \_\_\_\_\_ God is using to build His church.

Luke 22:31-34 Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to have all of you, to sift you like wheat. But I have pleaded in prayer for you, Simon, that your faith should not fail. So when you have repented and turned to me again, strengthen and build up your brothers. Peter said, Lord, I am ready to go to prison with you, and even to die with you. But Jesus said, Peter, let me tell you something. The rooster will not crow tomorrow morning until you have denied three times that you even know me.

Who wants us to fail?

Who intercedes for us so we can be restored?

Why do you think God allows us to be tempted?

What do we mean by healed healers?

Hebrews 13: 5-6 For God has said, I will never fail you. I will never forsake you. That is why we can say with confidence; The Lord is my helper, so I will not be afraid.

We do not have to face trials a \_\_\_\_\_, because Jesus is always with us.

The trials we face will last just long enough to s \_\_\_\_\_ our faith.

**Ask yourself: Am I totally committed to following Jesus?**

# Dedication

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## Transformation

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**To "follow" Jesus means we accept Him as our authority, pursue our mission and calling, model our lives after Him, and we become part of His community.**

J e s u s   r e q u i r e s   u s   t o   c o m m i t   t o   H i m   a n d   H i s  
m i s s i o n ,  
a n d   t o   s e r v e   o t h e r s   a s   H e   s e r v e d .

J e s u s   e m p o w e r s   u s   w i t h   t h e   d e c l a r a t i o n :  
*I w i l l m a k e*

J e s u s   c a l l s   u s   t o   r e a l i g n   o u r   p l a n s   a n d   g o a l s .

J e s u s   i s   n o t   s a t i s f i e d   w i t h   h a l f h e a r t e d   C h r i s t i a n s .

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*Jesus replied, You are blessed, Simon son of John, because my Father in heaven has revealed this to you. You did not learn this from any human being. Now I say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it.*

**Dedication to His Word is crucial:** *Jesus comes into our lives as with Peter and makes a powerful and declarative statement about who we can become.*

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**1 Peter 2:4-5** *As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood...*

**Luke 22:31-34** *Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to have all of you, to sift you like wheat. But I have pleaded in prayer for you, Simon that your faith should not fail. So when you have repented and turned to me again, strengthen and build up your brothers. Peter said, Lord, I am ready to go to prison with you, and even to die with you. But Jesus said, Peter, let me tell you something. The rooster will not crow tomorrow morning until you have denied three times that you even know me.*

**Temptations are not sent to make us fail; they are sent to build our character.**

**We are just as vulnerable to attack as Peter was:**

**Ephesians 6:12** *For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.*

**John 10:10** *The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.*

**1 Peter 5:8-9** *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith...*

## There are several types of faith:

**Passive** – *believes and lives as if Jesus might, maybe, possibly do something someday in my life, if I am lucky.*

**Reactive** – *believes and lives as if Jesus will do something someday in my life if I am good and God finds me worthy.*

**Pro-Active** – *believes and lives knowing that Jesus is doing something right now in my life and I am not worthy.*

We need to dedicate ourselves to His ministry

*Trials are not just about us, but about how we can learn to minister to others and become healed healers.*

As we get rid of the shallow, superficial stuff in our lives we are able to rededicate ourselves to His higher purpose.

*REMEMBER that our lives are full of amazing opportunities cleverly disguised as impossible situations.*

**Luke 22:54-62** *So they arrested him and led him to the high priest's residence, and Peter was following far behind. The guards lit a fire in the courtyard and sat around it, and Peter joined them there. A servant girl noticed him in the fire light and began staring at him. Finally she said, This man was one of Jesus' followers Peter denied it. Woman...I don't even know the man!*

*After a while someone else looked at him and said, You must be one of them! No, man, I'm not! About an hour later someone else insisted, This must be one of Jesus' disciples because he is a Galilean, too...Man, I don't know what you are talking about.*

*And as soon as he said these words, the rooster crowed. At that moment the Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered that the Lord had said, Before the rooster crows tomorrow morning, you will deny me three times. **And Peter left the courtyard, crying bitterly.***

**Mark 16:1-7** ...*Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him ...And they said among themselves, Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us? But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away...they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; ...But he said to them, Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples — and Peter...*

**The word of the Lord: re-dedication!**

**Hebrews 13:5-6** *For God has said, I will never fail you. I will never forsake you. That is why we can say with confidence; The Lord is my helper, so I will not be afraid.*

*We do not have to face trials alone, because Jesus is always with us.*

*The trials we face will last just long enough to strengthen our faith.*

*Jesus is never indifferent to our trials.*

**John 21:15-19** *So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these? ...Yes, Lord; You know that I love You...Feed My lambs. He said to him again a second time, Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me? ...Yes, Lord; You know that I love You...Tend My sheep. He said to him the third time, Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me? Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, Do you love Me? ...Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You...Feed My sheep...And when He had spoken this, He said to him, Follow Me.*

## **Believe and Receive**

**John 11: 25-26** *Jesus said: I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live even though he dies and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?*

## **Confess**

**Romans 10:9** *..that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.*

**Ask Him to forgive you of your sins:**

*1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

**Invite Jesus Christ to come into your life as the Lord of your life:**

*John 1:12-13 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God*

Jesus asks us the question – Who do you say that I am?

**Romans 10:9-10** *If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord" and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.*

*REMEMBER* that the difficult things we face in life make not be the result of our failure *BUT* they are often the result of our dedication and obedience to Jesus!